

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

DEC 29 2006

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 12016.0042U1
APPLICATION NO. 09/813,681

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 5-9, 16-17, 19-24, and 31-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious. Claims 25-39 have each been canceled without prejudice. Claims 33, 34, and 37 were each objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 40-56 are newly added by amendment.

The Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter and accordingly has amended claim 1 to incorporate claim 33. Thus, the Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2 and 5-9 are also allowable for at least the reason that each depends directly or indirectly from allowable claim 1.

Claim 40 has been newly added by amendment and represents claim 1 combined with claim 34. Thus, the Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 40 is allowable. Claims 41-47 depend from claim 40 and claim the same subject matter as claims 2, 5-9, and 33. Accordingly, claims 41-47 are allowable for at least the reason that each depends directly or indirectly from allowable claim 40.

Claim 16 has been amended to incorporate claim 37. Thus, the Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 16 is allowable. Claims 17 and 19-24 are also allowable for at least the reason that each depends directly or indirectly from allowable claim 16.

Claim 48 has been newly added by amendment and represents the subject matter of amended claim 1 claimed as a computer program product encoded in a computer readable medium. Thus, the Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 48 is allowable for at least the reasons given for the allowability of claim 1. Claims 49-53 are allowable for at least the reason that each depends from allowable claim 48.

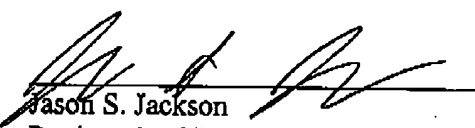
Claim 54 has been newly added by amendment and represents claim 40 claimed as a computer program product encoded in a computer readable medium. Claim 54 is therefore allowable for at least the reasons given for the allowability of claim 40. Claims 55-56 are allowable for at least the reason that each depends from allowable claim 54.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 12016.0042U1
APPLICATION NO. 09/813,681

In view of the Remarks, each of the presently pending claims in the Application is believed to be in condition for allowance. No additional fee is believed due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.


Jason S. Jackson

Registration No. 56,733

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.
Customer Number 23859
(678) 420-9300
(678) 420-9301 (fax)

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including any items indicated as attached or included, is being transmitted via facsimile transmission to: Examiner Poon, King Y., Art Unit 2625, Telephone: (571) 273-8300, on the date indicated below.


Jason S. Jackson

12-29-2006
Date